

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 149**

(Doc. No. 11081ac05)

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| TO: | The Honorable Lawrence K. "Larry" Grooms, Chairman, Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee | | |
| FROM: | Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board | | |
| ANALYSTS: | R.J. Stein | | |
| DATE: | February 4, 2005 | SBD: | 2005112 |

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| AUTHOR: | Senator Campsen | PRIMARY CODE CITE: | 47-17-75 |
| SUBJECT: | Dressing Freshly Killed Pork | | |

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 149 amends Chapter 17, Title 47 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Section 47-17-75 which declares that any person or facility that lawfully dresses, processes and packages freshly killed (i.e, hunted & killed) venison and returns it to the owner, is also authorized to dress, process, package and return to the owner freshly killed (while hunting) pig, hog or boar.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Clemson-PSA regulates and inspects meat processing plants in this state under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Meat processing plants covered under this agreement include cattle, swine, sheep and goats. Deer processing facilities are unregulated by any public health agency in this state.

Clemson's Meat-Poultry Inspection Department indicates that since deer processing facilities are unregulated, it is assumed these same facilities, when authorized to process swine, would remain unregulated. Therefore, the provisions of this Bill would not increase the number of facilities that are annually inspected by Clemson. However, under the cooperative agreement with the USDA, Clemson agrees to follow all federal meat inspection laws, and in return is reimbursed for 50% of the cost of the meat inspection program. Federal law requires that all swine be processed in a permitted facility. By allowing swine to be processed on a fee for service basis in an un-permitted facility, the Bill would cause Clemson to be in violation of federal law. As a result, Clemson could lose \$1.32 million annually in federal funding. If federal funding was lost \$1,320,000 in State General Funds would be needed to maintain the meat inspection program at the current level.

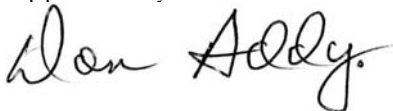
LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Don Addy
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget